

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Robert A. Underwood
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Underwood:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health





Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable George Miller
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Miller:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Jose Serrano
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Serrano:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Ed Pastor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pastor:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the printed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Esteban Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Torres:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Ciro Rodriguez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rodriguez:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Roybal-Allard:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Velazquez:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole".

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Carlos Romero-Barcelo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Romero-Barcelo:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole".

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Solomon Ortis
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Ortis:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Ruben Hinojosa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hinojosa:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman DeFazio:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Patsy Mink
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Mink:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole", is positioned above the typed name.

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Washington, DC 20585

October 2, 1997

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Abercrombie:

I am responding to your jointly signed September 11, 1997, letter to Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that expressed concerns regarding the possible elimination of the Science Advisor/Marshall Islands position as part of a departmental reduction in force (RIF).

I agree with your assessment that this is an important program that has greatly facilitated the dissemination of declassified information and access to these documents by the Marshallese Government. I am committed to the openness process that we have begun regarding declassification of documents pertinent to atmospheric nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands and the work that our two governments have collectively accomplished.

I, too, share with you the hope that a RIF can be avoided. If the RIF process cannot be avoided due to budgetary cuts, we will do everything we can to manage our work so as to ensure continuity in our Marshall Islands Program.

Thank you for your interest in our program and its continuing ability to serve the needs of the Marshallese Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tara O'Toole".

Tara O'Toole, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health



Subject: Expresses Concern Regarding the DOE Elimination of Science Advisor
Marshall Islands Program

Addressee: The Secretary

From: 14 Members of Congress

Control No. EH-6-97--: 159

ES No.: ES97-012986

Received: 09/16/97

Priority: 1

Office Assigned: EH-63

Date: 09/16/97 Due Date: 09/18/97

Division Assigned:

File#:

Staff Assigned: Bell


Completed:

Comments: Prepare response for the signature of the Secretary; concurrence
of CP.

Continuation:



Action Information

ES Number: 97-012986
Action Office: EH-6
Action Title: Prepare Response (Letter To Secretary From 14 Members of Congress -- Priority: Critical)
Other ID: Lizzie970562
Due Date: 09/18/97 Revised Due Date:
Date Completed: Date Assigned:
Description: Incoming Correspondence Subject: Express concern regarding the DOE Elimination of Science Advisor Marshall Islands Programs
Incoming Images/Attachments:  970562.tif

Incoming Correspondence Information

Addressed To: Secretary
CC'ed To:
From: 14 Members of Congress
Document Subject: Express concern regarding the DOE Elimination of Science Advisor Marshall Islands Programs

To Be Signed By:	Secretary	Concurrence Required:	CP, Brush, O'Toole
Document Type:	Letter	Classification:	Congressional
Priority:	Critical	Priority Reason:	
Action Type:	Prepare Response		
Document Date:	09/11/97	Received Date:	09/15/97

Current Activity

Status: In Preparation
Action From: DMR_Staff, DMR
Action Lead: Susan Whitmore, EH-6
Other Participants: Tom Bell; Sue Anderson
Comments/Update: Action assigned to EH-63, Tom Bell
Attached Files/Documents:

History

History:

ORIGINAL TICKET CREATED BY: Jackie Morton ON 09/16/97 10:25 AM
ACTION FROM: DMR
RESPONSIBLE: Susan Whitmore, EH-6
ORIGINAL DUE DATE: 09/18/97
STATUS: Initial Assignment
COMMENTS: FWD to EH-6 to coordinate for response
OTHER NOTIFICATION:

09/12/97

17:01

202289141

CONG. UNDERWOOD

002/003

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 11, 1997

The Honorable Federico Peña
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Peña:

We have recently learned that the Department of Energy is considering the elimination of Science Advisor/Marshall Islands Program in its Germantown facility. As you know, the position was created in part to facilitate the dissemination of declassified information to the Government of the Marshall Islands regarding the nuclear testing conducted by the United States on several Marshallese atolls.


The after effect of the nuclear testing on the environment and especially the people of the Marshall Islands has been dramatic. The availability of such an advisor has already done much in the maintenance of good relations with the Marshallese Government and the elimination of this position will send a contrary message. The termination of this position will probably end the "Openness Initiative" that has been responsible for obtaining documents and information that had been for decades, requested by the Marshallese Government.

Therefore, we would like to register our concerns and hope that you will consider them seriously when you deliberate on this issue.

Sincerely,


Robert A. Underwood


George Miller


Jose Serrano


Ed Pastor


Esteban Torres


Ciro Rodriguez

09/11/97 17:02 0241200341

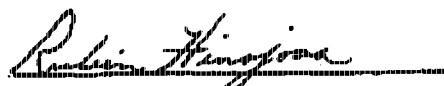
CONG. UNDERWOOD


003/003


The Honorable Federico Peña
September 11, 1997
Page 2

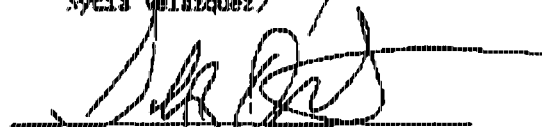

Lucille Roybal-Allard


Carlos Romero-Barcelo



Ruben Hinojosa


Patsy Mink


Sydia Velazquez


Solomon Ortiz


Peter DeFazio


Neil Abernethy

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

CI

ESSENTIAL/CRITICAL
ES NUMBER: ES97-012986
EXTERNAL

DATE OF DOC: 09/11/97 REC'D: 09/15/97 CONTROLLED: 09/15/97 DUE: 09/22/97

FROM: FOURTEEN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

NOTES AREA:

SUBJECT: EXPRESS CONCERN REGARDING
SUMMARY: THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ELIMINATION OF SCIENCE ADVISOR
MARSHALL ISLANDS PROGRAM

SOURCE: CONGRESSIONAL

DOCUMENT TYPE: FAX

ADDRESSED TO: SECRETARY
FOR SIGNATURE OF: SECRETARY

ACTION TO: ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH
ACTION TYPE: Prepare final reply
ACTION OFFICER:

CONCURRENCE COPIES TO: CI
INFORMATION COPIES TO: SP/ACK OS/MONTOYA ES1 TEAM

CONCURRENCES COMPLETED:

REMARKS: FINAL RESPONSE OR INTERIM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MUST REACH
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT BY THE DUE DATE.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT CONTACT: G Holloway

----- EXEC SEC INTERNAL USE -----

SUBJECT CROSS REF:
RELATED CODE/NUMBER:
ACCRTS NUMBER:

SPECIAL INT. CODE:
SPECIAL INT. DATE:

FILE CODE: CCNULTI-ES97012986

COMPLETION DATE:

INFORMATION GENERATED ON 09/15/97 AT 15:07

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT ROOM (DMR)
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM TICKET

Tuesday September 16, 1997

PHONE: 202-586-7331
Page: 00001

FAX: 202-586-0549
09:21am

Control No: 970562

Action To: EH-6

Id No: E997-012986

Action Office: EH-6

Critical: ☒ YES

Assigned To:

Addressee: SECRETARY

Doc Date : 09/11/97

From: 14 CONGRESS MEN

Doc Rec'd: 09/15/97

Org/Company:

Due Date : 09/18/97

Comp Date: / /

Subject: EXPRESS CONCERN REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ELIMINATION OF
SCIENCE ADVISOR MARSHALL ISLANDS PROGRAM (14 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS)
PREPARE RESPONSE

Action Type: EXEC SEC ACTION

Doc Type: LTR Sig Of: SECRETARY

Conc.Reqd: CP, BRUSH, O'TOOLE

Date Added: 09/16/97 Added By: MORTON

Keywords: MARSHALL ISLANDS

Info Copies: DMR

Status: 9/16 FAXED TO EH-6 TO COORDINATE FOR RESPONSE, NOTE: RESPONSE
MUST GO TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONGRESS. (JH)

**RUSH
PRIORITY**

URGENT

Date Status Last Updated: 09/16/97

RECEIPT OF DOCUMENT:

NAME

DATE

PLEASE CALL THE EH/DMR FOR IMMEDIATE PICK UP:

S. CAMPBELL
J. MORTON

6-3073
6-7331